

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 4 are amended for clarification. No new matter is added. Reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested, at least in light of the following remarks.

I. Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO-1449 was filed in the above-captioned patent application on October 14, 2010. The Examiner is requested to initial and return to the undersigned a copy of the Form PTO-1449. For the convenience of the Examiner, a copy of that form is attached.]

II. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,425,665 to Kennedy; and rejects claims 2, 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kennedy in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0181133 to Miyazawa et al. ("Miyazawa). There rejections are respectfully traversed.

Kennedy fails to disclose and would not have rendered obvious "the geometric center of the circular lens member corresponds to the associated sub-frame center and the geometric center of the edge shape," as recited in claim 1.

Kennedy discloses a geometric center that is an axis about which the lens rotates during the edging process (see Kennedy, col. 6, lines 45-47). Kennedy further discloses that the geometric center is calculated after the shape data and lens data is inputted into a computer (see Kennedy, col. 7, lines 30-34). Thus, the geometric center of Kennedy is the geometric center of the edged lens 120 or 122. However, Kennedy is silent regarding the geometric center of the lens blank 44 or 56. Accordingly, Kennedy fails to disclose a relationship between the geometric centers of the lens blank 44 or 56 and the edged lens 120 or 122.

In contrast, claim 1 recites that "the geometric center of the circular lens member corresponds to the associated sub-frame center and the geometric center of the edge shape." As discussed in paragraph [0024] of Applicant's specification, the claimed structure makes it possible to define an edge shape in a circular lens having an outside diameter that is extremely close to the maximum outside diameter of the edge shape, which results in a substantial reduction in waste as compared to a conventional method.

Miyazawa fails to remedy the deficiency of Kennedy.

Claim 4 recites "a geometric center of the lens blank does not match an optical center of the spectacle lens but matches with a geometric center of the edge shape to be processed...the geometric center of the edge shape corresponding to the associated sub-frame center and the geometric center of the lens blank." Therefore, claim 4 is patentable over the references at least for reasons similar to those discussed above for claim 1, as well as for the additional features those claims recite.

Dependent claims 2, 3 and 5 depend from independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claims 2, 3 and 5 are patentable over the references at least for their dependence from claim 1 as well as for the additional features those claims recite.

Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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